

Amendments to the Claims:

1. **(Previously Presented)** A method of preventing or minimizing dye redeposition onto textile fabrics during stonewashing and/or biostoning of indigo-dyed cotton fabrics by contacting the dyed fabric comprising cotton fibers with a dye redeposition inhibitor during the dye removal process, **characterized in that** the dye redeposition inhibitor is a polyester, obtained by reacting at least the following monomers during an esterification reaction:

- (A) one or more dicarboxylic acid compound(s), wherein terephthalic acid makes up more than 90 mole% of the dicarboxylic acid compounds employed,
- (B) one or more diol compound(s) having from 2 to 6 carbon atoms, wherein ethylene glycol makes up more than 90 mole% of the diol compounds employed, and
- (C) polyetherols with one or two hydroxy groups having at least 6 oxygen atoms, wherein polyethylene glycol having a molecular weight from 2,000 to 8,000 g/mole makes up more than 90 wt.% of the polyetherols employed, and

the monomers (A), (B), and (C) comprise more than 80 wt.% of the monomers in the polyester.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The method according to claim 1,

~~In particular, the method in a preferred embodiment is~~ **characterized in that** the monomers (A), (B), and (C) comprise more than 90 wt.%, ~~preferably more than 95 wt.%~~ of the monomers in the polyester.

3. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to any one of claims 1 or 2, **characterized in that** the polyester comprises a monomer (D) of one or more polyol compound(s) with at least 3 OH groups having from 3 to 12 carbon atoms, ~~especially glycerol~~.

4. **(Currently Amended)** A method of preventing or minimizing dye redeposition onto textile fabrics by contacting the dyed fabric comprising cotton fibers with a dye redeposition inhibitor during the dye removal process, **characterized in that** the dye redeposition inhibitor is a polyester, obtained by reacting at least the following monomers during an esterification reaction:

- (A) 20 to 50 mole% of one or more dicarboxylic acid compound(s),
- (B) more than 0 to 30 mole% of one or more diol compound(s) having from 2 to 6 carbon atoms,
- (C) 10.1 to 50 mole% of one or more water-dilutable polyetherol(s), produced by the addition of one or more C₂- to C₄-alkylene oxide(s) to a C₁ to C₁₈ alcohol, ~~especially a C₁ to C₆ alcohol,~~ with one hydroxy group, wherein the alkylene oxide/alcohol mole ratio is in the range from 4 to 100 : 1, and
- (D) 10.1 to 29.9 mole % of one or more polyol compound(s) having at least 3 OH groups.

5. **(Original)** The method according to claim 4, **characterized in that** 1 to 10 mole% of the diol compound (B) is incorporated.

6. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to any one of claims 4 or 5, **characterized in that** the average molecular weight of the polyester is less than 5,000 g/mole; ~~preferably from 2,000 to 5,000 g/mole.~~

7. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to any one of the claims 4 or 5, **characterized in that** the dicarboxylic acid compounds (A) are selected from the group consisting of

terephthalic acid, isophthalic acid, phthalic acid and their derivatives, and mixtures thereof, especially ~~terephthalic acid and its derivatives, preferably in a quantity of greater 90 mole% of terephthalic acid and its derivatives, based on the incorporated dicarboxylic acid compounds.~~

8. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to any one of claims 4 or 5, **characterized in that** independently of one another

- (a) no tricarboxylic acid compounds and
- (b) less than 10 wt.% of isophthalic acid or its derivatives and especially no isophthalic acid or its derivatives

are employed.

9. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to any one of claims 4 or 5, **characterized in that** the diol compound (B) is ethylene glycol, or propylene glycol or mixtures thereof .

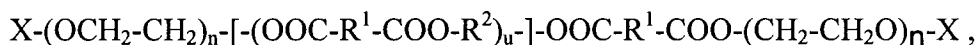
10. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to any one of claims 4 or 5, further **characterized in that** the polyester is anionically modified by incorporation of anionic monomers and/or is capped with terminal groups.

11. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to any one of claims 4 or 5, **characterized in that** the polyetherols (C) are alkylene oxide addition products of ethylene oxide, propylene oxide, butylene oxide or their mixtures ~~to~~ and aliphatic C₁ to C₁₈ alcohols, preferably C₁ to

C₆ alcohols, and/or water.

12. **(Currently Amended)** A method of preventing or minimizing dye redeposition onto textile fabrics during stonewashing and/or biostoning of indigo-dyed cotton fabrics by contacting the dyed fabric comprising cotton fibers with a dye redeposition inhibitor during the dye removal process, **characterized in that** the dye redeposition inhibitor is comprised [a] of a polyesters having the formula:

~~In one embodiment, the polyesters used in the method of the present invention have the formula:~~



wherein the polyesters have molecular weights of less than 5,000 g/mole, each **R¹** residue is a 1,4-phenylene residue, optionally substituted by mono- or di-C₁-C₃-alkyl; the **R²** residues are principally ethylene residues, 1,2-propylene residues, or mixtures thereof; each **X** represents independently of one another hydrogen, a C₁ to C₁₂ hydrocarbon residue, ~~especially ethyl or methyl~~; each **n** is a number from 7 to 115, and **u** is a number from 3 to 10.

13. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to any one of claims 5 or 12, characterized in that the polyester is liquid at room temperature.

14. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to claim 13, **characterized in that** for the removal of dye abrasive stones and/or enzymes, ~~especially at least cellulases~~, are put into contact

with the fabric in order to achieve a stonewashed look.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to claims 13, **characterized in that** the dye redeposition inhibitor is put into contact with the fabric both during the stonewashing step and ~~the~~ any preceding desizing step.

16. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to claim 13 [5], **characterized in that** the polyetherols (C) have from 16 to 180 C_2 -to- C_4 alkylene oxide units selected from the group consisting of ethylene oxide units; propylene oxide units, butylene oxide units and mixtures thereof.

17. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to any one of claims 1, or 2, **characterized in that** the polyols have less than 3 OH groups.

18. **(Cancelled)**

19. **(Cancelled)**

20. **(Previously Presented)** An indigo-dyed cotton fabric, produced by the method of any one of Claims 1 or 12.

21. **(New)** The method of Claim 4 wherein said dicarboxylic acid compounds comprise of terephthalic acid and its derivatives.

22. (New) The method of Claim 4 wherein said dicarboxylic acid compounds are present in an amount of greater than 90% of terephthalic and its derivatives, based on the incorporated dicarboxylic acid compounds.

23. (New) A method of preventing or minimizing dye redeposition onto textile fabrics by contacting the dyed fabric comprising cotton fibers with a dye redeposition inhibitor during the dye removal process, **characterized in that** the dye redeposition inhibitor is a polyester, obtained by reacting at least the following monomers during an esterification reaction:

- (A) 20 to 50 mole% of one or more dicarboxylic acid compound(s),
- (B) 1 to 10 mole% one or more diol compound(s) having from 2 to 6 carbon atoms,
- (C) 10.1 to 50 mole% of one or more water-dilutable polyetherol(s), produced by the addition of one or more C₂- to C₄-alkylene oxide(s) to a C₁ to C₁₈ alcohol, with one hydroxy group, wherein the alkylene oxide/alcohol mole ratio is in the range from 4 to 100 : 1, and
- (D) 10.1 to 29.9 mole % of one or more polyol compound(s) having at least 3 OH groups.